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Letter dated 2 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 1 November 1993 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention two statements, one by President Rauf Denktas and the other by Foreign and Defence Minister Dr. Kenan Atakol, respectively, in connection with the communiqué issued by the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Southern Cyprus (appendices I and II, respectively).

I wish to stress that the paragraphs on Cyprus of the Final Communiqué issued at the end of the said meeting are not in the least compatible with the efforts within your mission of goods offices to find a mutually acceptable, negotiated solution to the Cyprus question. On the contrary, the said paragraphs, with their one-sided treatment of the issues involved, obviously under the influence of Greek Cypriot propaganda, create new obstacles for the negotiations by encouraging Greek Cypriot intransigence.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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APPENDIX I

Statement of 26 October 1993 by President Rauf R. Denktas in Lefkosa on the paragraphs on Cyprus of the Final Communiqué issued by the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Southern Cyprus between 21 and 25 October 1993

"This communiqué has been adopted in the absence of the Turkish Cypriot side. Therefore, as in the case of all such other communiqués, it is not in any way binding on the Turkish Cypriot side or the people of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The said communiqué, which has been adopted by listening only to one side of the problem, and without regard even to the most elementary norms of justice, has naturally caused dismay among the Turkish Cypriots, who are one of the peoples of the Commonwealth family.

"It is indeed regrettable that members of an organization such as the Commonwealth, having come as far as our borders, did not even bother to cross over to the North, assuming that these borders have been drawn by an 'occupation army'; that they did not even feel the need to send a fact-finding mission to the North; and that, by looking at us from a distance and being influenced by the demonstrations staged by the Greek Cypriot side, adopted such a communiqué."

APPENDIX II

Statement of 26 October 1993 in Lefkosa by Dr. Kenan Atakol, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defence

"During the closing ceremony of the 12th meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government, a communiqué was issued, which includes one-sided paragraphs on Cyprus fully supporting the Greek Cypriot viewpoint.

"It is evident that this communiqué, which was adopted without listening to the Turkish Cypriot side, and distorts the realities in Cyprus, will not, in any way, be binding on the Turkish Cypriots. The Commonwealth, which had remained silent during the tragic years from 1963 to 1974, when the Turkish Cypriots were being subjected to all forms of inhuman treatment, and which has made a habit of applauding the Greek Cypriot leadership, who had meted out such treatment to the Turkish Cypriots, has no moral or other right to call for the withdrawal of the Turkish Peace Forces, who saved the Turkish Cypriots and secured real peace in the island.

"The reference by the Commonwealth to the so-called 'settlers' is a distortion of the issue regarding the return of the Turkish Cypriots, who had been forced to emigrate from Cyprus as a result of Greek Cypriot pressures, to their ancestral homeland. It is also a misrepresentation of the importation of labour into Northern Cyprus, which was much needed for the revitalization of our economy, prevented from developing by Greek Cypriot embargoes. Such misrepresentations are totally unacceptable.

"At a time when the Turkish Cypriot authorities have been cooperating in goodwill with the team of experts sent by the United Nations Secretary-General to study the confidence-building measures (CBMs); and whereas the Greek Cypriot authorities at the highest level are declaring that they only 'appear to accept the package (of CBMs) for tactical reasons', the Commonwealth's attempt to blame the Turkish Cypriot side for the non-implementation of the CBMs is incompatible with morality and goodwill.

"The said communiqué once again confirms the view held by the Turkish Cypriot side from the beginning that the choice of South Cyprus as the venue for the Summit was a grave mistake, and that the Commonwealth, which insists on treating the Greek Cypriot administration as the 'legitimate Government of the whole of the island', cannot pursue an impartial policy with regard to the Cyprus question."